

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A device for admitting a backwash fluid to filter medium of a filter bed, comprising:
 - (i) a tubular member;
 - (ii) a plurality of [elongate orifices] slots through said tubular member, [; iii] whereby to allow passage therethrough of said fluid but not the media[.] ; and
 - (iii) means for connecting the tubular member to a fluid supply means;
each slot being directed longitudinally along said tubular member, and having a length not greater than the pitch between adjacent slots.
 2. Cancelled
 3. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim [2] 1, wherein the slots each have a width of less than 0.5mm.
 4. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim [2] 3, wherein the slots each have a width between 0.10-0.3mm.
 5. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim [2] 3, wherein each slot has a width of 0.25mm.
- Please cancel claims 6-9.
10. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim [9] 1, wherein the slots are arranged in more than one row.

11. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim [8] 10, wherein the slots are arranged in rows whereby to provide slots both close to the bottom and to the top of the [tube] tubular member in any orientation of [said member] the tube.

Please cancel claims 12-13.

14. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim [12] 1, wherein the slots are staggered along the length of the tubular member.

Please cancel claim 15.

16. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim [2] 1, wherein the slots are formed by a laser cutting device.

17. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim 16, wherein the [members are selected from a group of materials] tubular member is made from a material selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, brass, aluminum and plastic.

18. (Currently amended) A system for backwashing a filter medium of a filter bed, comprising:

[(i) a plurality of members as defined in claim 1; and
(ii) wherein said members extend substantially in spacial relation one with another and wherein each is connected with a fluid supply means.]

(i) a first device for admitting a backwash fluid to said filter medium, including a plurality of tubular members;

(ii) a second device for admitting a backwash fluid to said filter medium including a plurality of tubular members;

(iii) means for supplying air; and

(iv) means for supplying water.

said air-supplying means being connected to said first device and said water-supplying means being connected to said second device.

19. (Currently amended) A system as defined in claim 18, wherein [the] each supply means comprises a supply pipe for each tubular member and a common manifold to which each supply pipe is connected.

20. (Previously added) A filter, side walls and a base, and wherein there is installed a system as defined in claim 19.

21. (Previously added) A filter as defined in claim 20, wherein the tubular members extend laterally of the filter.

22. (Currently amended) A filter as defined in claim 21, wherein the tubular members are positioned at the base of the filter.

23. (Currently amended) A filter as defined in claim 22, wherein the tubular members are positioned adjacent the base of the filter.